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# THE MORNING NEWS

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## Aruba is capable of developing a new economic pillar

Former Dutch Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende is extremely positive about Aruba's "Green Gateway" development between Europe and Latin America. He is of the opinion that we must work together in order to make that vision possible. He asserts that Aruba has the potential and Holland is about to explore the process. This was part of Balkenende's remarks at his lecture given at the University this past week.

Balkenende is currently on Aruba as partner of Ernst & Young and is involved in research being conducted by Ernst & Young regarding the



Jan Peter Balkenende

possibilities for Aruba becoming a hub. Balkenende reported... "we have investigated what are the necessities for Latin America and what does Europe have to offer, and in what context can Aruba play a role. It is evident that there is an enormous need for knowledge on sustainability in Central and South America. Aruba may be the link between the need for contact between the Latin American continent and Europe."

Ernst & Young is advising Aruba to develop herself as the center for knowledge on Sustainability as well as a center for commerce for

green products. They are also advising that Aruba establish a dynamic Project Organization especially for this purpose. Aruba can also provide information about tourism and airport management. Aruba, according to Balkenende can be used as an "incubator" for new technology, and do investigation on new applications for existing technology.

For Balkenende, the conference on "Europe Meets the Americas" to take place here in May, should be used as the point of departure for new developments. Aruba must be ready to show what the island has to offer as a gateway, in such a manner that companies will be anxious to make use of the facility.

Aruba's Prime Minister says... "We want a third economic pillar that would create opportunities for our young professionals who are currently unable to return to Aruba. The preliminary results from TNO are the first trials of this. Already several of our young professionals have received opportunities from TNO and are engaged in a high level activity in a new sector of technology that would have otherwise not been possible without TNO."



Supporters of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez gather at Simon Bolivar Square in Caracas to celebrate after Chavez announced on Twitter that he had returned to the country from Cuba and is hospitalized at a military hospital in the Venezuelan capital, on February 18, 2013. Chavez returned to Venezuela early on Monday after spending more than two months in Cuba for cancer surgery and treatment, announcing his surprise homecoming via Twitter. "We have arrived again to the Venezuelan motherland," Chavez wrote. "Thank you, God. Thank you, my beloved people. We will continue my treatment here." (AFP PHOTO) see story on pg 6

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## Celebrating 2013 as Year of Papiamento

On May 21, 2003 Aruba's Parliament approved a very important law, namely, the Official Decree stipulating that Papiamento and Dutch are the official languages of Aruba.

Through this decree, Papiamento, the mother tongue of most inhabitants of Aruba and the language most used in our community, received the well-deserved official recognition.

This year, 2013 we celebrate the thirteenth anniversary of the officialization of Papiamento. Hence, we have declared 2013 as the Year of Papiamento.

This is actually the second time that we are celebrating the Year of Papiamento. In 1997 we dedicated attention to our language in the context of our quest for its recognition in the community as well as in education.

In 2008, the Department of Education dedicated that year to a campaign regarding the proper use of Papiamento. With the formal officialization of Papiamento we are able to continue working on the recognition of the linguistic rights of our people and the right of our children



and their children to receive instruction in their own language. These rights are stipulated in several very important documents, among others, UNESCO. All of the documents describe mother tongues as a most important tool for thought, communication, to express feelings and for development.

### Why make Papiamento official?

In a country with a colonial history, in most cases the language of the people of that country has an inferior position because the colonizing country imposes its language as the only legal language. This occurs for example in the government and in edu-

cation. They have and are using all sorts of arguments to keep the local language out of official sectors of the island. Many times, for lack of information, the people may believe the arguments and so doing fail to give their local language its rightful place. This was the case in Aruba, and the people of Aruba had to fight a fierce battle for the Papiamento to receive the place it deserves in our community. Very slowly Papiamento began to receive recognition, and at a memorable moment back in the 50's it entered the Aruban Parliament to stay!

Many voices, especially from the educational camp, fought for Papiamento to be introduced into our schools.

Experience and investigations prove that to hinder someone from developing a strong dominion of their mother tongue and to hinder him from learning in that language is equal to prohibiting him from using his brains.

The fight to get Papiamento into our schools has been a fierce one, and the fight is not over as there are still those who are not convinced of the value of Papiamento for the development of the child, despite all the literature on the subject.

Today there are two primary schools using Papiamento as the language of instruction in the first grade, which project began in 2009.

There are several other schools waiting anxiously to implement the "Scol Multilingual" Project.

### How to Continue?

This Year of Papiamento the focus is on more awareness. There is much work to be done in the community. There is work to be done on an elaboration of the law of officialization of Papiamento. Another very important matter to yet be dealt with is to make official the orthography

of Papiamento. The concept law for the orthography must be brought back unto the table and be deliberated as soon as possible.

There is work to be done in commerce, the press, public relations and in the world of music to teach the community the proper use of Papiamento. Opportunities for learning Papiamento via Radio, Television and from other sources must be created. Courses on all levels should be taught up to the level of the Master's degree for teachers.

### Program for 2013 Year of Papiamento

The Department of Culture in consortium with Fundacion Lanta Papiamento, Grupo Corector, Department of Education, Aruba Tourism Authority, IPA and the University of Aruba received confirmation from the Council of Ministers to declare 2013 Year of Papiamento.

The commission has worked on a calendar for Year of Papiamento and a variety of interesting activities. The calendar will be published and the community is invited to participate with enthusiasm at the activities.

## International Day of Maternal Language celebrated here!

February 21st is International Day of Maternal Language ...for Aruba, a day to put special emphasis on our local Papiamento language.

Last year Aruban Poet Rosabelle Illes had a brilliant idea to organize a "dictado." With the cooperation of various organizations they organized an evening dedicated to our maternal language with a competition of writings included.

This year, the commission decided to organize a similar activity to last year's successful "dictado."

This year's is dubbed "E Gran Dictado di Papiamento."

Everyone is invited to participate. Those who have taken Papiamento professional courses of the second or third levels or corrector courses may not participate.

This year the dictation will be reviewed by author Quito Nicolaas and will be presented by Ramon Todd Dandare, Master in Linguistics. Participants will be required to write 6 lines in Papiamento. The judges will then correct these. Ramon Todd Dandare will provide information regarding the dictation and the orthography of Aruba. Finally, they will announce the winner of the "dictado" and present the corresponding prizes. The event is scheduled for February 23rd at the Cas di Cultura from 7:00pm. Registration can be made via email at [dictado2013@gmail.com](mailto:dictado2013@gmail.com). Registration can also be done at the Department of Culture as of today until Friday during office hours – Tel. 582-2185.

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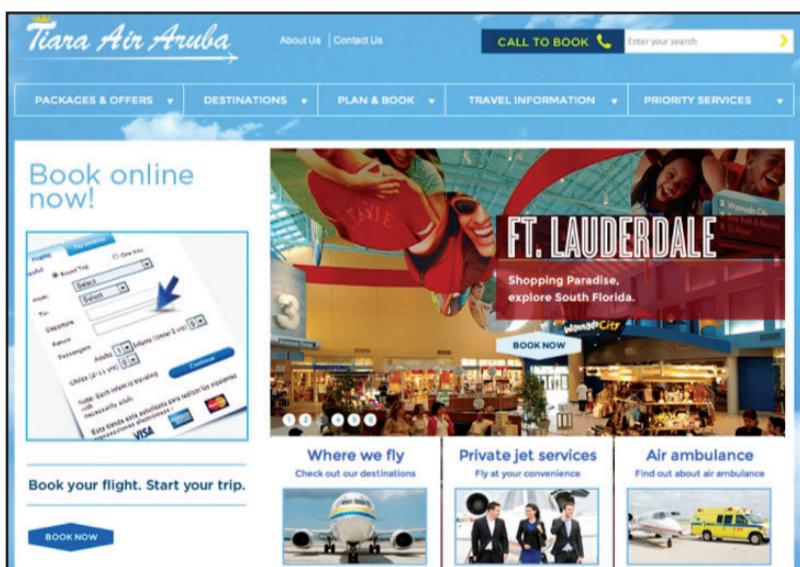
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## Tiara Air Aruba enhances its customer service by launching a new website



The website features a prominent "Book online now!" button and a "CALL TO BOOK" button. It includes sections for "PACKAGES & OFFERS", "DESTINATIONS", "PLAN & BOOK", "TRAVEL INFORMATION", and "PRIORITY SERVICES". Below the main menu, there's a "Book online now!" section with a form, a "Where we fly" section showing a map of Ft. Lauderdale, and links for "Private jet services" and "Air ambulance". The footer includes a "BOOK NOW" button.

Tiara Air Aruba launches a new customer website, [www.tiara-air.com](http://www.tiara-air.com), that further strengthens Tiara Air Aruba's position and services in the Caribbean and in the Americas.

Unveiling the new digital presence, the website features new and existing destinations that Tiara Air Aruba has to offer the discerning business and leisure traveler, including destinations from Caracas, Aruba, Medellin and Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

"Tiara Air Aruba is very excited about the launch of the new website. In a world that is shifting from tradi-

tional to digital marketing it's important that you follow the trends and have a website that is visible, user friendly and assessable," says Marketing Manager, Malinda Hassell.

The purpose of the new website is to better service existing and new customers and continue increasing awareness to the different services and destinations Tiara Air has to offer. Visitors can easily plan and book their flights online, receive special offers, get flights updates and more! In the coming month the site will also be available in a mobile

friendly version and in Spanish to better serve the growing customer base in Latin America.

"We are very honored to have been awarded the opportunity to work with such a forward looking airline as Tiara Air Aruba. Our overall goal was to create first class customer experience online. Planning your holiday or business trip on the new Tiara website should be as friendly and professional as their in-flight service." announced Kristjana Thorvalds, Director of Digital Strategy at Expander.com.

Expander is a digital marketing agency that specializes in marketing automation, digital services and social content. We help companies look beyond traditional mass marketing and implement digital solutions to enable more predictable, rapid and profitable revenue growth. Expander is headquartered in Amsterdam, Netherlands with consultant teams in Argentina and Aruba, Dutch Caribbean. [www.expander.com](http://www.expander.com)

We invite you to visit [tiara-air.com](http://tiara-air.com).

## Dentist and Jaw Surgery specialist Dr. Arthur Vallejo opens new practice



an open house for all those interested. The new practice is in the spacious yard of the home of his father where his father also has his practice.

The Prime Minister, reportedly was the one who interceded and removed all the bureaucratic and other legal barriers to make it possible for Dr. Arthur Vallejo and Dr. Zuleima Lacle (Ophthalmologist) to be able to establish their practice here on the island.

**Continued on pg 5**

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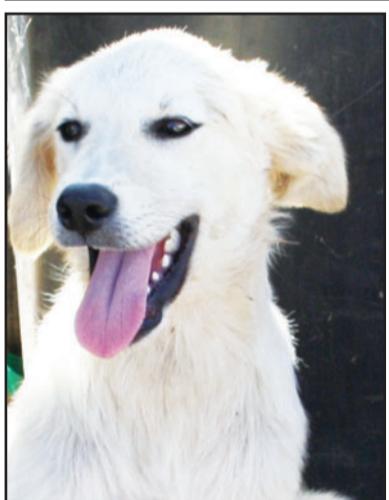


Animal Right Aruba has at the moment 18 dogs for adoption.

Four adults, five 6-months old teenagers, all white and beautiful, and 9 cute 5-week olds, mixed breed puppies. They are being fed twice a day by Animal Rights Aruba volunteers but would require a fast adoption, since the Animal Shelter in Wayaca is full and can no longer accommodate new arrivals.

We hope the pictures will help us find homes for the dogs. For the purpose of seeing them, you could meet the volunteers of ARA at Pacifico Restaurant (across from the road to the Casibari rock formation). Adopting overseas is easy, you will get a health certificate from the local vet with the help of the ARA volunteers, and your new dog can go home with you!

Call for adoption:  
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## Aruba's Kyra Hoevertsz has great results in Synchronized Swimming in California



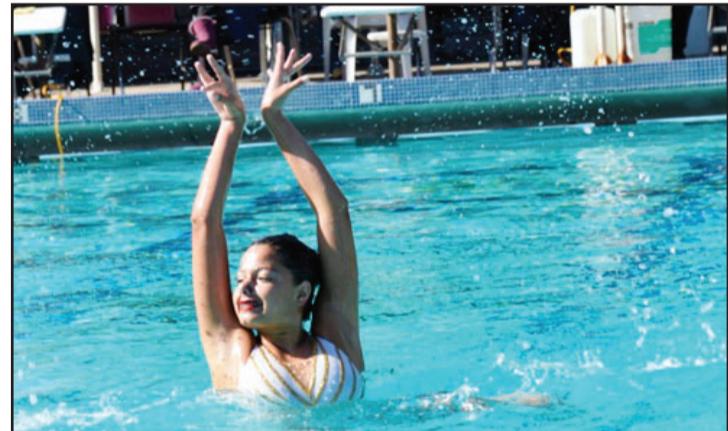
Since last December, young Aruban athlete Kyra Hoevertsz has moved to Miami to continue her studies but also to develop herself in her sport synchronized swimming as a member of the club Walnut Creek Aquanuts.

Last Sunday Kyra participated at the "Pacific and Central California Junior & Senior Championship" in Pleasant Hill, California. Three clubs of that area participated at the event.

Kyra competed with her solo, but she also joined in the technical figures discipline in the Junior category.

Kyra only started training in Miami as of December 2012, but in a record time of a few weeks the progress in Kyra's presentation is already noticeable. In her last competition Kyra's points in technical figures were 65.683 and her recent scores were 67.580, which give her 8th place.

After that she competed with her solo which was also very impressive. Kyra received the beautiful score of 71.533 from the judges,



which were the highest scores she has ever received in her solo competitions. Kyra finished in fifth place.

Kyra's next event will be the "West Zone Championships" which will take place in Beaverton, Oregon at the end of February. Fourteen clubs of five states will be participating: Alaska, Oregon, California, Montana and Washington.

This competition is considered of great importance as it is the classification event for participation in the National Championships of Synchronized Swimming: the "US Nationals," which



will take place in April 2013.

Aruba and THE MORNING NEWS wishes Kyra success!

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**Dentist and Jaw  
Surgery specialist  
Dr. Arthur Vallejo  
Continued from pg 3**

The young 28 year old dentist talked about his 5 years study in Bogota, which was followed by a 4 years specialization in oral surgery and facial Maxillo. During his vacations he visited international universities such as in Illinois to observe the new technologies they offer. The young Doctor is pleased that, although things were hard for him in the beginning, he is delighted to be able to offer Aruba his odontological and jaw surgery services.

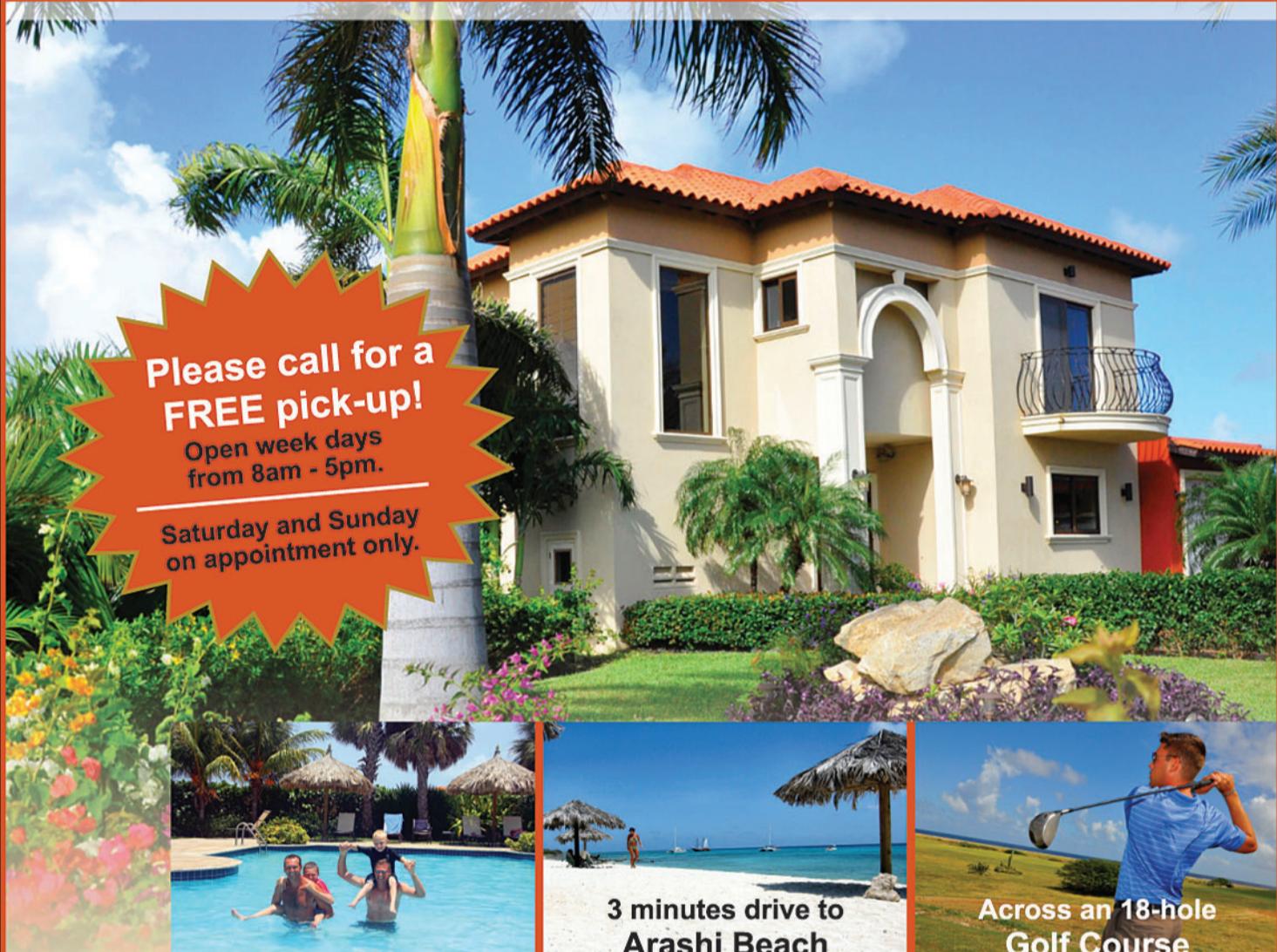
Dr. Vallejo says:.... "I have the necessary equipment and the locale for doing oral surgery as well as for removing wisdom teeth which may be complicated. I am also equipped for doing surgical implants or bone regeneration in cases of trauma. Surgery that were previously impossible to do here can now be done on Aruba."

Vallejo, Jr. says that sending a patient abroad to be operated on and bringing him back is not a problem. However, in the case of a Maxillo facial surgery where a lot of screws and wires are involved, the follow up becomes crucial. This is why it is best to do this locally where the local Aruban dentist can do the necessary follow up with all effectiveness.

He explains that the colorful interior of his office is a reflection of his island, Aruba. He uses tropical colors to relax his patients the moment they enter his office. Many people are still afraid of going to the dentist, hence the emphasis on making them relax. The young dentist indicated that he already has many patients and considers this a real blessing.

His proud parents, popular Dr. Arturo Vallejo and Gemma are indeed proud to see their son as an independent professional with a beautiful future ahead of him.

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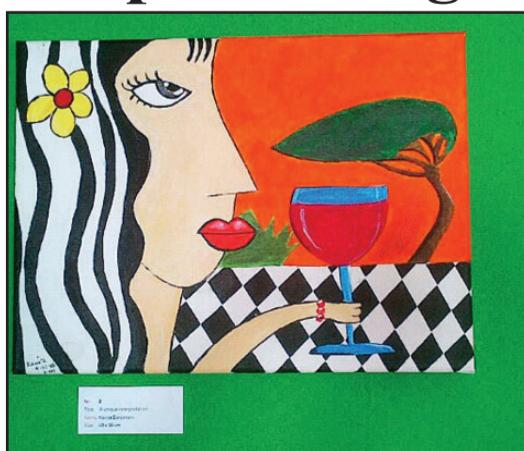
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*"The Art Project" to auction off paintings on February 22:  
All proceeds go to Fundacion Pa Nos Comunidad*



Last Friday, February 15th the exhibition of "THE ART PROJECT" started at Restaurant & Art Gallery Que Pasa. The total collection is 34 paintings. Friday, February 22, the various works of art will be auctioned. All proceeds from this auction go to Funda-

cion Pa Nos Comunidad. THE ART PROJECT is an initiative of the advertising agency NOW! End of December 2012 all customers and relations of NOW! received a complete art-kit with a canvas, paint, brushes and a challenge; making a painting. The entries surpassed all expectations, both quantitatively and qualitatively. Curious?



Please have a look at Que Pasa. Or visit [www.facebook.com/NOWadvertising](http://www.facebook.com/NOWadvertising). This foundation focuses

on vulnerable groups in the Aruban community. One of the objectives is to combat poverty and social exclusion. On the website [www.fpncaruba.com](http://www.fpncaruba.com), you will find information about current projects and events.

For more information on the auction please contact NOW! at phone number 588 5565 or mail at: [info@about-now.com](mailto:info@about-now.com)

# 'He's back!' Chavez in Venezuela after cancer surgery



CARACAS (AFP) - President Hugo Chavez shocked and delighted Venezuelans by returning home Monday, albeit to an uncertain future, ending a more than two-month absence in Cuba for cancer surgery and treatment.

Even as Chavez supporters took to the streets in noisy celebration, and foreign dignitaries congratulated Chavez and urged him to rest, the next step for the oil-rich country remained unclear.

It was not immediately known when, if at all, Chavez would be sworn in by the Supreme Court to begin the new term he won in elections late last year.

A Supreme Court court source said the tribunal is ready, and waiting for the go-ahead from Chavez and his medical team. The ceremony does not have to be public, the source said, suggesting it could be done with Chavez lying on his back in a hospital bed.

Indeed, Chavez may be home but as soon as he arrived he was hospitalized

again for more treatment. He has undergone surgery four times since mid 2011.

Chavez announced his return on Twitter -- he has nearly four million followers -- and his arrival at Caracas airport was not broadcast on TV. That is unusual in this country he so thoroughly dominates both politically and personally.

"We have arrived again in our Venezuelan homeland," Chavez wrote. "Thank you, God. Thank you, my beloved people. We will continue my treatment here."

Chanting and banner-waving Chavez supporters gathered outside the hospital where Chavez was admitted.

Venezuelans had neither seen nor heard from him since he left for Cuba December 10 for a fourth round of cancer surgery, although on Friday photos of a bedridden but smiling Chavez were shown on Venezuelan TV. The government said it was hard for him to speak because he has been fitted with a tracheal tube, due to a nagging post-operative respiratory infec-

tion. Chavez was first diagnosed with cancer in mid 2011.

Government updates on his condition have been sketchy, fueling speculation that the president was worse off than officials were admitting or perhaps even dead.

The government had never said what kind of cancer he had or where it was, or when he might return home. Now, seemingly out of the blue, Chavez is back.

Pro-Chavez people also gathered in Bolivar Plaza to celebrate the return of their larger than life comandante, a garrulous populist who is the most visible face of the Latin American left and a thorn in the side of Washington for his alignment of oil-rich Venezuela with nations such as Iran, Syria and Cuba.

"He's back, he's back, he's back," supporters chanted, images on state-run VTV showed.

Mauro Delgado, an Ecuadoran taxi driver who has lived in Caracas for 34 years, said "if God is keeping him alive it must be for something. I think that if he came back it is because he is getting better. Otherwise, he would have stayed in Cuba."

From Cuba, Fidel Castro hailed his long-time friend's return home. He said a long and anxious wait is over for the Venezuelan people, thanks to Chavez's "stunning physical stamina and the total dedication of the doctors" who treated him in Havana. That medical team accompanied Chavez back home.

## Assad says confident of winning Syria war



DAMASCUS (AFP) - President Bashar al-Assad said he is confident his troops will win the conflict ravaging Syria, as new calls were made on Monday for the International Criminal Court to launch a probe into war crimes.

Assad's comments, published in Lebanon's pro-Damascus newspaper As-Safir, came as the European Union renewed sanctions against Syria while amending them to enable nations to provide more "non-lethal" and technical support to help protect civilians.

As-Safir said that Assad had met with unnamed Lebanese politicians in Damascus during which he assured them that Syria's future belonged to his camp.

"We are sure we will win, we are reassured by the political and military developments," Assad was quoted as

telling the visiting politicians, the Lebanese newspaper said.

"We are convinced that the future is ours... Syria has the willpower to defeat the conspiracy," said Assad, according to As-Safir.

He said those "loyal" to his regime "represent the absolute majority of Syrians".

Since the outbreak of a revolt against his regime in March 2011 that later morphed into an insurgency,

Assad has systematically labelled opponents and rebels alike as "terrorists" he says are funded and backed by the West, Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

The United Nations says that nearly 70,000 people have been killed in the conflict so far, many in massacres, bombardments, under torture and through summary executions.

A report by a UN-mandated commission of inquiry on the Syria conflict released in Geneva on Monday said that both Syrian state forces and rebels were committing war crimes, though it said the government camp carried more blame.

At a news conference where the report was released, commission member Carla del Ponte renewed calls for the International Criminal Court to probe war crimes in Syria.






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## Indian PM pushes parliament for new anti-rape law

NEW DELHI (AFP) - India's prime minister said Monday he hoped parliament which resumes this week would enact a tough law against rapists following the fatal gang-rape of a student in New Delhi.

The comments came two weeks after the government passed temporary measures to toughen the punishments for rapists, following outraged protests over the case of the 23-year-old student who was gang-raped on a bus in December.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told reporters his government hoped the budget parliament session which opens Thursday would pass a permanent law to tackle crimes against women.

## Obama to receive presidential honour on Israel visit

JERUSALEM (AFP) - Barack Obama will become the first serving US president to receive Israel's presidential medal, from his Israeli counterpart Shimon Peres on a visit to the Jewish state next month, Peres's office said on Monday.

"President Obama has made a unique and meaningful contribution to strengthening the state of Israel and the security of its people," it said in a statement.

"Barack Obama is a true

### Ecuador's Correa insists revolution cannot be stopped

QUITO (AFP) - Fresh from a landslide re-election victory, President Rafael Correa hoped Monday to match it with a sweeping legislative win needed to clear the way for deeper socialist changes in Ecuador. "Nobody is going to stop this revolution. We are making history," Correa told a crowd from the balcony of the presidential palace on Sunday, after clinching a new four-year term. "We are building our small homeland, and a larger one, too," he said, referring to Latin America. With more than 58 percent of the ballots counted in the oil-exporting South American nation, Correa was ahead with nearly 57 percent of the vote, compared to banker Guillermo Lasso's 24 percent. Now the attention is turning to legislative election results, with Correa aiming for an absolute majority in the National Assembly, which would give him free rein to regulate the media, redistribute land and make other controversial changes. A leftist firebrand in the mold of Venezuela's Hugo Chavez, the 49-year-old Correa is one of a group of leftist leaders who have shaken up Latin America in recent years with populist and often defiantly anti-US policies. Correa dedicated his victory to Chavez, who made a surprise return home from Cuba overnight after 70 days in Cuba convalescing from cancer surgery. He wished the Venezuelan a speedy recovery, saying, "Venezuela, your beloved Latin America and we, your friends, all need you."

"It is our hope that parliament will urgently pass the necessary legislation to enact a comprehensive law in this regard," he said.

"It is indeed a matter of shame that, notwithstanding the gains we have made, incidents of violence and sexual offences against women are on the increase," Singh said on the sidelines of a function in New Delhi.

Under the changes approved by the cabinet and the president earlier this month, the minimum sentence for gang-rape, rape of a minor or rape by policemen or another person in authority will be doubled to 20 years from 10 and can be extended to life without parole.

friend of the state of Israel and has been since the beginning of his public life. As president of the United States he has stood beside Israel in times of crisis," it added.

Israel's presidential medal of distinction is awarded to individuals or organisations who have contributed to Israeli society and Israel's image in the world.

The White House has not announced specific dates for the Obama visit, his first to Israel and the West Bank as president.

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## International News

### Pope begins week-long retreat before resignation



VATICAN CITY (AFP) - Pope Benedict XVI began a week-long spiritual retreat out of the public eye on Monday ahead of his resignation on February 28, with the field of candidates to succeed him still wide open.

Benedict and some of his top cardinals will devote this week to daily prayers in a frescoed private chapel in the Apostolic Palace in the Vatican during Lent -- a period of penitence in the Christian calendar before Easter.

The cardinal leading the prayers said he hoped the retreat would serve as a period of respite for the pope following his momentous decision to step down.

The retreat is a yearly tradition -- one of several regular appointments that the pope has stuck to in the wake of his historic announcement last week.

Following the retreat, the pope will receive Italian President Giorgio Napolitano on February 23, celebrate his final Sunday prayer on February 24, and hold a last audience before tens of thousands of faithful on February 27.

Benedict will formally step down as pope on February 28 at 1900 GMT, shortly after being whisked away from the Vatican by helicopter for the last time.

His role and title following

his resignation have still not been determined and no date has been set for the conclave of cardinals to elect him.

The resignation will set up an unprecedented situation in modern Catholic history where popes usually serve until death -- a pontiff and his predecessor both living in the Vatican just a stone's throw away from each other.

The idea that a pope -- whose election is believed to be divinely inspired -- can resign has been a shock to many Catholics around the world.

Vatican observers say Benedict's move could set a precedent for future popes, whose advancing age often hampers their effort to govern the Church.

The conclave to elect a new pope usually begins between 15 and 20 days from the death of a pope according to the Apostolic Constitution, which would put the date for the start of the deliberations on or around March 15.

But canon lawyers are hard at work to see if the date could be brought forward to earlier in March to avoid any possible overlap with the Holy Week before Easter, which begins on March 24 ahead of Easter Sunday on March 31.

No clear favourite for the papacy has emerged, unlike

for the run-up to the last conclave in 2005 when Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger was already seen as the candidate who could best bring together different factions in the Church.

### Seven to hang for Sudan child rape, lawyer says

KHARTOUM (AFP) - A Sudanese judge sentenced seven men to hang for the drugging and rape of a 14-year-old girl, the victim's lawyer said on Monday, calling the sentence "more than just"

Cases of gang rape are rare in the Islamist-run state.

Six minors who also abused the girl were sentenced to 10 years each in a reformatory, Judge Ahmed Khalil Albahar ruled, according to the lawyer Salma Mohammed Hamed Hamed.

"He found them guilty by the evidence he received of raping a child," the lawyer told AFP.

Judge Albahar issued the verdict on Sunday at a court in Khartoum's twin city of Omdurman, Hamed said.

The crime occurred in May last year after the men kidnapped the girl from her home. All 13 of them abused her.

"They gave her a cup of juice containing drugs and then raped her," Hamed said.

In his verdict, the judge cited a presidential directive calling for heavier punishments of sex crimes.

Hamed said the girl was treated at a rape trauma centre and has returned to school.

## Flagship shows cancelled as BBC journalists strike



pre-recorded shows.

The NUJ claims the British Broadcasting Corporation has lost more than 7,000 jobs since 2004 and it plans to cut a further 2,000 jobs as it slashes its budget by 20 percent.

The budget cuts are being driven by a fall in the revenue the corporation gets from the licence fee, which is paid by everyone in Britain with a television.

The licence fee is currently £145.50 (\$225, 170 euros).

NUJ general secretary Michelle Stanistreet said her members were striking "to defend jobs and quality journalism at the corporation", saying they want talks to resume over the redundancies as well as a moratorium on job cuts until April.

"They are angry and frustrated at the poor decisions being taken at the top of the BBC -- decisions that are leading to journalists being forced out of their jobs and quality journalism and programming compromised," she said.

The strike comes as the BBC struggles to restore order in its ranks following the crisis over child sex abuse allegations against the late presenter Jimmy Savile, which exposed infighting and chaos at every level of the corporation.

In a statement, the BBC apologised for Monday's disruption.

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## Health & Living

### Senegal women told 'all black' is beautiful -- and healthy



DAKAR (AFP) - Outraged by adverts urging women to bleach their skin, a spontaneous movement has emerged in Senegal arguing that black is beautiful -- and to act otherwise is to risk one's health.

The campaign sprang up in response to advertisements that appeared in the capital Dakar last year for a cosmetic cream called "Khess Petch", or "all white" in the local Wolof language.

The posters promised "rapid action" and "results in 15 days". They showed before and after pictures of a young woman who started out black and ended up with fair skin through depigmentation, locally known as "kheessal" or bleaching.

"We were scandalised (by a poster) suggesting that black is not beautiful because it recommends that young women should transform themselves in a fortnight," said Aisha Deme, who runs the cultural website Agendakar.com.

So the campaigners put up their own posters in the Senegalese capital, this time showing a proud black woman. The work was done for free by fashion photographer Stephane

Tourne and advertising professionals.

The Nuul Kukk campaign, which is highly active online and has its own website, Twitter feed and Facebook page, features local stars, including the rapper Keyti, the stylist Dior Lo and women's rights activist Kine Fatim Diop.

The campaign is also backed by dermatologist Fatimata Ly, who has been fighting the "kheessal" practice for 10 years as part of the International Association for Information on Artificial Depigmentation.

For Ly, skin-bleaching is a public health concern because "in the general population, 67 in every 100 women practice artificial depigmentation."

These products reduce the body's ability to "defend itself against (various) infections", and they also "have broader effects on health, such as diabetes and high blood pressure," she added.

The skin-lightening phenomenon exists in several sub-Saharan African countries and in the black diaspora. In Senegal, "it is mainly a feminine practice, even if you find it among men in some particular groups, such as performers," Ly said.

Whitening creams, milks and gels contain substances initially intended for therapeutic purposes, such as corticosteroids and hydroquinone, and should only be prescribed by doctors, according to Ly.

Women are nonetheless drawn to the products because they believe they will make them more beautiful, according to researchers and doctors, and Deme says it's an uphill battle to convince women otherwise.

### Indonesian newborn dies after rejection from 10 hospitals

JAKARTA (AFP) - A one-week-old baby in Indonesia has died from respiratory complications after being turned away from 10 hospitals, her street vendor father said Monday, adding he could not pay what some demanded.

Dera Nur Anggraini was born prematurely with her twin sister Dara on February 10, with a throat deformity that obstructed her breathing, said father Elias Setya Nugroho.

He said his family searched for treatment but was turned away from 10 hospitals, with some claiming not to have the right equipment and others saying they were fully occupied.

"Dera was buried yesterday, on Sunday, not far from our home," Nugroho said, adding the baby died after being taken back to the Zahira Hospital in Jakarta where she was born.

He said the private hospital asked for a down payment of 15 million rupiah (\$1,552), even though the family held a health card that entitles low-income earners to free health services.

He said his other daughter Dara, who was born weighing 1.4 kilograms (three pounds) was now in a public hospital fighting for her life.

Health Minister Nafsiah Mboi said the baby who died would have had little chance of survival.

"The baby was born weighing just one kilogram, so she had little chance of survival. Usually babies are around three kilograms when they're born," she said.

But the minister admitted the city was under-resourced to handle complications with newborns.

## Are you sitting correctly at work?



--Many people are sitting in front of their computers for hours on end. This is one of the common causes of back and neck pain. One of the important things to do at work to help decrease your back or neck pain is to get up and out of your seat at regular intervals and stretch your neck and body in the opposite ways than you have been sitting. Ideally you should get up and move your neck every 20 minutes.

It is also good to be aware of what is a good posture to have when sitting at the desk. here are a few tips and a diagram to help you sit well at your computer:

1. Have your feet flat on the floor
2. Have your hips slightly higher than your knees
3. Sit as far back in the chair as possible
4. Keep your elbows close to your body and your shoulders relaxed down
5. The top line of your computer monitor should be at eye level so you are looking slightly down at your screen
6. Sit back as far as possible while still seeing the screen clearly
7. Keep the keyboard in close proximity, keep your shoulder relaxed and your wrists in line with your forearm
8. Keep your mouse in close proximity and alongside your keyboard
9. Use a headset if your job entails extensive use of a telephone.



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## Sci-Tech

## LG unveils new full-HD smartphone



SEOUL (AFP) - LG Electronics unveiled Monday the latest version of its flagship smartphone, boasting a higher resolution screen aimed at gaining a technical edge over bigger rivals like Samsung.

The Optimus G Pro -- the newest version of the Optimus G series and the first LG smartphone offering a full high-definition (HD) screen -- will hit stores at home Wednesday, the South Korean firm said.

The new handset is powered by Android software and measures 15.2 centimetres (5.98 inches) long and 7.6 centimetres wide. It goes on sale in Japan and North America in the second quarter.

The Optimus G Pro features a 5.5-inch display that packs over 2 million pixels, or twice as many as smartphones with ordinary HD screens, offering brighter and clearer images.

Global handset makers like Taiwan's HTC and Sony of Japan have recently rolled out models boasting full HD

screens -- most commonly used for TVs -- to gain an edge in the increasingly competitive smartphone market.

Samsung Electronics, the world's top maker of both smartphones and mobile handsets in general, is also expected to unveil a new full-HD version of its headline Galaxy S model.

"With smartphones getting bigger and bigger, its visual function becomes ever more important," LG said in a statement. "An ability to offer high-resolution images is paramount."

LG, the world's number two flat-screen TV producer and the fifth biggest phone maker, has struggled for years in the rapidly-growing smartphone market, with its Optimus series lagging far behind Apple's iPhone or the Galaxy S.

But heavy promotion of new models saw LG's smartphone sales in the fourth quarter of 2012 surge 56 percent from a year ago to a record 8.6 million units.



YEKATERINBURG (AFP) : A handout photo taken on February 18, 2013, and provided by Urals Federal University shows a computer screen displaying scientist's tools working with pieces of porous black rock, reportedly fragments of the meteor that spectacularly plunged over Russia's Ural Mountains, at the university's lab in Yekaterinburg. Scientists said today they had discovered fragments of the meteor that spectacularly plunged over Russia's Ural Mountains creating a shockwave that injured 1,200 people and damaged thousands of homes



## NASA scrambles for better asteroid detection

WASHINGTON (AFP) - NASA, universities and private groups in the US are working on asteroid warning systems that can detect objects from space like the one that struck Russia last week with a blinding flash and mighty boom.

But the US space agency reiterated that events like the one in the Urals, which shattered windows and injured nearly 1,000 people, are rare.

NASA estimates that before entering the Earth's atmosphere above Russia, the asteroid measured 17 meters (56 feet) in diameter and weighed 10 tons.

Fragments of the asteroid caused an explosion equivalent to 500,000 tons of TNT when they hit.

The same day, a 45-meter in diameter asteroid known as 2012 DA14 whizzed harmlessly past the Earth, its passage overshadowed by the bright arc drawn across the Russian sky that same day.

But had it hit ground, 2012 DA14 could have obliterated a large city.

Ten years ago, NASA would not have been able to detect 2012 DA14, said Lindsey Johnson, near earth object (NEO) project manager at NASA said recently.

But he said NASA has made progress on learning how to detect small asteroids.

Johnson said there are many of these objects flying around near the Earth -- say, half a million -- and they are hard to track because of their small size.

In line with a goal set by Congress in 1998, NASA has already discovered and catalogued around 95 percent of the asteroids of a kilometer or more in diameter that are in the Earth's orbit around the sun and capable of causing mega-destruction.

The NEO program at NASA currently detects and tracks Earth-approaching asteroids and comets with land-based and orbiting telescopes. Scientists estimate their mass and orbit to gauge whether they pose a danger.

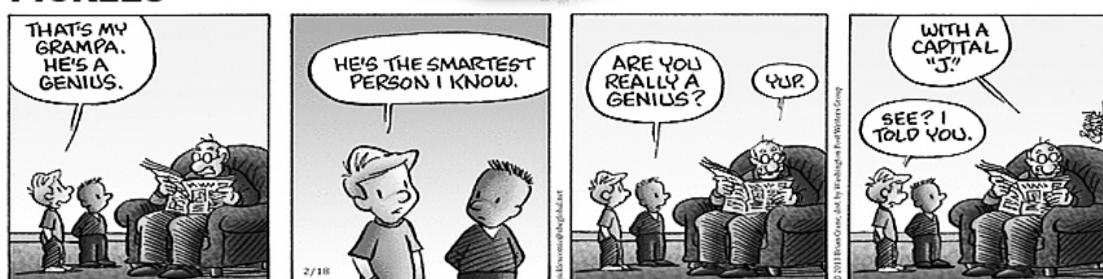
With this system, the Arecibo radio telescope in Puerto Rico, which has an antenna 305 meters in diameter, can observe with great sensitivity a third of the night sky and detect asteroids that are on the large side.



WASHINGTON (AFP) - This undated photo courtesy of Bent Christensen and the American Association for the Advancement of Science shows a perch (Perca fluviatilis). Pharmaceutical drugs that end up in the world's waterways after being excreted, flushed and treated at wastewater treatment plants may lead to unexpected ecological impacts, according to a new study of wild European perch. Tomas Brodin and colleagues from Umeå University in Sweden discovered that the fish ate faster, became bolder and acted less social after being subjected to an anxiety-modulating drug, known as Oxazepam. The related report appears in the February 15, 2013 issue of the journal Science, which is published by AAAS, the nonprofit science society.

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## PICKLES



## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBES



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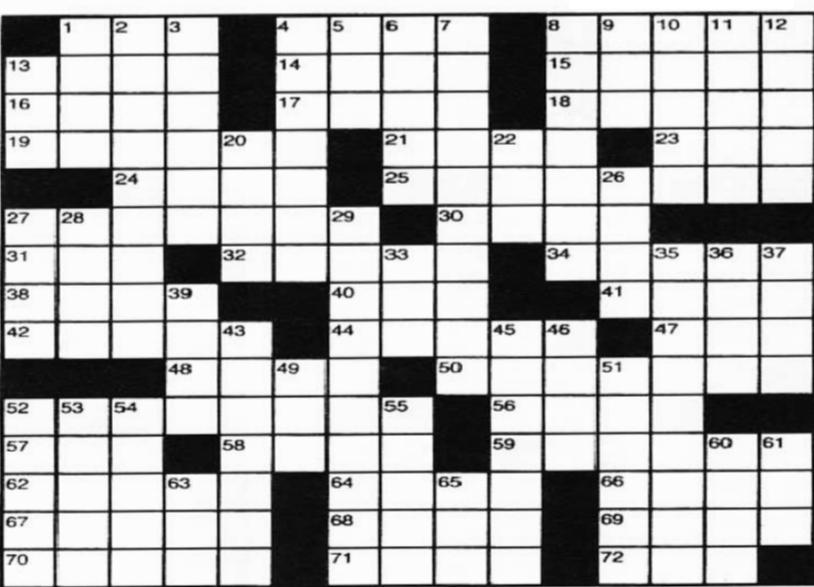
1. Author-adventurer Buntline
4. Stair
8. Derives, as a benefit
13. Requested
14. Biblical sellout
15. Poet Ramsay
16. Server's lead announcement
17. It might be transitive
18. Nautical command
19. Actor Victor
21. Nobelist Wiesel
23. Revived: prefix
24. Fragrance
25. Industrious
27. Blaze fighter
30. Bell-shaped lily
31. "A Fool Such \_\_\_" (Elvis hit)
32. Hebrew starter
34. Boring!
38. Pierce
40. Like Burns's mousie
41. Parisian papa
42. Enamored metals
44. Cholesterol-watching Jack?
47. Turkish official
48. Branch of biology: abbr.
50. Chided
52. Tacked up fliers
56. "Green Mansions" hero
57. Piece of legislation
58. Western alliance: abbr.
59. Contradicts

## 62. Jacob Marley, e.g.

64. Tot
66. Midge, e.g.
67. Corrode
68. First-grader's school: abbr.
69. Tax
70. Overhauled
71. M. Descartes
72. Before, poetically

## DOWN

1. Niño's nothing
2. Opinion piece
3. Strip
4. Unspecified number
5. "Four Quartets" monogram
6. Having hearing organs
7. Charles Foster Kane and William Randolph
8. Jacob Marley, e.g.
9. Yale student
10. Coeur d'\_\_\_, Idaho
11. Eucharist plate
12. Condescending one
13. Emeril's exclamation
20. Italia's capital
22. \_\_\_ du Levant
26. Creature created by Gelett Burgess
27. Author Howard Howard
28. "It \_\_\_ laugh!"
29. Company bulletin
33. Lethargic one's lack
35. One who makes the front page
36. Encourage
37. Honey drink
39. Borscht vegetable
43. Like annoying magazine inserts
45. The Ivy League life
46. Hamlet's phrase
49. Mouth: prefix
51. Children's book author Madeleine
52. On-call device
53. Earth pigment, to a Brit
54. Was firm
55. Sir Arthur Conan \_\_\_
60. Icicle place
61. What Dorothy fell into
63. Star Wars letters
65. Actor Murray



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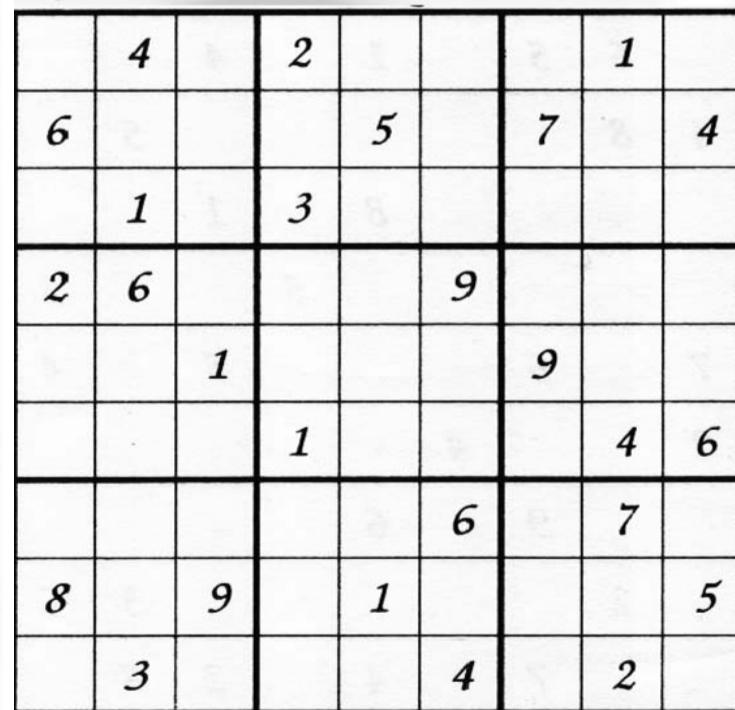
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## Sudoku



## SOLUTION



Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

**Finance****Bolivia nationalizes Spanish-owned airports company**

LA PAZ (AFP) - President Evo Morales on Monday ordered the nationalization of a Spanish-owned company that operates airports serving Bolivia's three largest cities.

Morales, who made the announcement at a news conference in the city of Cochabamba, promised negotiations with SABSA, an affiliate of the Spanish firms Abertis and Aena, within 180 days on the amount of compensation.

He also ordered the military to take control of the three airports "to safeguard the public interest" and warned that any attempt to impede the nationalization would be prosecuted.

The company has run the airports serving La Paz, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz since 1997, when they were privatized. It was acquired by the Spanish group Abertis-Airports in 2005.

It is the third nationalization affecting Spanish investments in Bolivia in less than a year.

**YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer****WTO meets to review EU seal products ban**

GENEVA (AFP) - The World Trade Organisation on Monday held its first hearing on the EU's contested ban against the sale of seal products, a decision opposed by both Norway and Canada.

The two countries, which every year kill tens of thousands of seals, insist that the hunting method is ethical and asked the WTO to review the 2010 ban, imposed because of what the EU considers cruel hunting methods.

Canada's indigenous Inuits, who have traditionally hunted seal for centuries, are exempt from the ban.

Commercial seal hunters often use a hakapik, a club with a metal spike on it, to stun

the seals before killing them. Animal rights groups also say some seals are skinned while they are still conscious.

Canada, home to some 6,000 commercial seal hunters, argued Monday that stricter regulations have made the hunt more humane.

"East Coast seal hunt can be, and is, conducted in a humane fashion," Canada's representative said by video link to the hearing in Geneva.

The WTO, which will also hear Norway and the EU in the case, is expected to deliver a decision in a few months.

Ahead of Monday's hearing, the animal rights group PETA staged a protest outside the WTO headquarters.

**Syria infrastructure damage cost \$11 bn: minister**

DAMASCUS (AFP) - Damage to infrastructure across Syria after nearly two years of conflict is estimated to cost \$11 billion (8.2 billion euros), local administration minister Omar Ghalawanji said on Monday. "Syria is suffering a war that is affecting all the infrastructure of the state," Ghalawanji said in a speech to parliament, broadcast by state television. He said the government commission for construction estimates "damage caused by acts of sabotage committed by armed terrorist groups until January 10, 2013, at more than a trillion Syrian pounds," or \$11 billion. The government spent two billion pounds (\$22 million) in 2012 "on repairs to infrastructure and public buildings," Ghalawanji added. Protests against President Bashar al-Assad's rule began in March 2011 but later morphed into an insurgency after the army unleashed a brutal crackdown on dissent. Assad's regime has systematically labelled opponents and rebels alike as foreign-backed "terrorists," blaming them for the conflict that the United Nations estimates has claimed around 70,000 lives.

**Boeing seeks temporary fix for suspect batteries: report**

NEW YORK (AFP) - US aerospace giant Boeing is considering an interim plan to protect its 787 Dreamliner if its batteries overheat or catch fire, according to a report Monday in the Seattle Times.

Boeing's flagship new jet has been banned from flight worldwide since the middle of last month after battery smoke forced an emergency landing of one plane and a battery fire was reported on a parked jet.

The company has stood by the safety of the lithium-ion batteries used in the plane, pending the results of an official investigation, but Monday's report said that the company was looking for a temporary solution.

According to the daily, which covers a region including a major Boeing plant, Boeing may encase the battery cells in a titanium or steel box fitted with a high pressure vent

to contain any fire that erupts in flight.

No Boeing spokesman was immediately available to comment on the report, which the paper said came from people familiar with the plan.

The Dreamliner, a long-haul fuel-efficient airliner built using the latest composite materials, is key to Boeing's business strategy as it battles to be top dog in the virtual duopoly it shares with rival Airbus.

Airbus insiders have told AFP that the European giant has dropped plans to use lithium-ion batteries in its future 787 rival, the A350.

According to the reports, Boeing hopes its interim plan to shield the plane from battery fires will convince US safety authorities to allow the 50 jets grounded around the world to return to service by May at the earliest.

**Qatar to open new 30-mln-passenger airport in April**

DOHA (AFP) - Energy-rich Qatar will open on April 1 a new airport with a capacity to handle 30 million passengers, as the Gulf state vies to increase its share of transit air travel, an official said Monday.

"The annual capacity of Hamad International Airport will be 30 million passengers when it opens on April 1," the head of Qatar's Civil Aviation Authority Abdul Aziz al-Nuaimi told AFP.

He said the cost of building the new hub over nearly eight years has "exceeded \$15 billion."

Eleven foreign budget carriers will be the first airlines to use the new facility, while the emirate's flag carrier, Qatar Airways, joining in the

second quarter of 2013, he said.

The new airport spreads over 29 square kilometres (11.2 square miles), and features two runways stretching 4.85 kilometres (three miles) and 4.25 kilometres (2.64 miles) respectively.

The terminal has a total surface of 60 hectares.

The new airport, which replaces the old Doha International, is expected to raise its capacity to 50 million passengers per year by 2020.

Qatar Airway is one of the fast growing carriers which like neighbouring Gulf carriers -- Dubai's Emirates and Abu Dhabi's Etihad -- vies to increase its share of transit travel between Europe, Asia and Australia.

## Could 9-year-old win youngest best actress Oscar?

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - She landed the part by lying about her age: Quvenzhane Wallis was five, and the filmmakers were only auditioning girls at least six years old.

But they believed her fib and tried her out -- and were blown away, giving her the starring role in the low-budget "Beasts of the Southern Wild" over 4,000 other hopefuls.

And now she could become the youngest ever winner of the best actress Oscar, at the 85th Academy Awards, the climax of Hollywood's annual awards season, next weekend.

"It was very clear ...you don't meet six-year-olds who have that quality," said director Benh Zeitlin, recalling her audition. "She just had this natural charisma and focus and fierceness and wiseness and morality."



This publicity photo released by Fox Searchlight Pictures shows Quvenzhane Wallis portraying Hushpuppy in a scene from the film, "Beasts of the Southern Wild."

Louisiana bayou with her hot-tempered and ailing father Wink, in a community threatened by floods driven by melting

Wallis is the youngest best actress Oscar nominee by four years: the next is Keisha Castle-Hughes, who was 13 when nominated for "Whale Rider" in 2003. The third, Lawrence, nominated again this year, was first tapped in 2010 at age 20 for "Winter's Bone."

The youngest ever best actress Oscar winner is Marlee Matlin, who took the prize in 1986 for "Children of a Lesser God" at the positively mature age of 21 years and 218 days.

The youngest person to ever win an Oscar in any competitive category is Tatum O'Neal, who was just 10 when she took home the best supporting actress prize in 1973.

Wallis is already on her third film -- "Twelve Years a Slave," with Brad Pitt, Benedict Cumberbatch and Michael Fassbender, due out in September. She has also made "Boneshaker," a short about an African family lost in America.

Whether she wins an Oscar on Sunday or not -- the favorites are Chastain and Lawrence, admittedly -- she is clearly a force to be reckoned with, and an actress to watch out for in years to come.

ing ice-caps.

"Beasts of the Southern Wild" won the prestigious Camera d'Or at last year's Cannes Film Festival in France, and the Grand Jury Prize for a dramatic film at Sundance.

The movie's setting was close to Wallis' home: the actress -- her first name is pronounced Qua-ven-zhah-nay -- was born in Houma, Louisiana, on August 28, 2003. The "zhane" part of her name means fairy in Swahili.

"Beasts" was her first acting job, and she only got it after ignoring the filmmaker's audition rules -- perhaps, appropriately, like the character she was asked to play.

"It was for a six-to-nine-year-old. So my Mom said I couldn't go 'cause I was only five. But we just went and we act like we're having nothin' to do; we had done nothin' wrong," she said.

"The character who is Hushpuppy, she does what is right and she is fearless and that's what I did at the audition."

Michelle Obama with Benh Zeitlin and Quvenzhane Wal-

"Coming out of a body that small and a mind that young, it's almost alien and alien in a way that goes kind of straight at your heart.. It's her perspective that unlocks the truth in the film."

That charisma is obvious when you see Wallis being interviewed to promote the movie over recent months, even before it was elevated to the stratosphere by being nominated for four Oscars in January, including best picture.

"I was in my bedroom half asleep," Wallis told Jay Leno, about waking last month to learn she was nominated alongside Jessica Chastain, Jennifer Lawrence, Naomi Watts and Emmanuelle Riva, the oldest ever best actress nominee, at 85.

"So nothing reacted on the outside, but I was like flipping cartwheels and stuff on the inside," she told the talk show host, whom she admonished -- cutely -- for asking her a question more appropriate for the director.

In the movie Wallis plays Hushpuppy, living in the



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## Buster's is back in Eagle Beach at Trop Casino



The home of the Beer Pong drinking game



A whopping cheese nachos w/chicken dish

Fans of Aruba's favorite sports bar are happy to hear that Buster's Garage has relocated to the restaurant/bar space inside Trop Casino. Now Eagle Beach resort guests have a great place for a bargain-priced

there is a game going on out there somewhere, we'll find it."

With giant screens everywhere throughout the joint, there isn't a bad seat in the house. Aside from their all day menu of game-watching favorites, they also feature a hearty breakfast menu. The "Grand Slam Platter" includes eggs any style, pancakes or waffles, bacon, juice, fresh made home fries with coffee or tea for only \$9. Lunch and dinner menus reflect the same moderate pricing with required sports bar standards such as chicken wings, club sandwiches, burgers and a heaping helping of nachos, averaging \$9; pizza and main courses range from \$11 to \$15.

Aside from the games and the gambling, patrons can ex-



Threesome, takes care of the entertainment

breakfast or a bucket of beer while rooting for the team of their choice.

Buster's has that great, homey feel of settling in to enjoy a game with buddies, greatly due to the warmth and enthusiasm of owner Rusty. He takes pride in making patrons feel welcome. "If somebody

really needs to watch their home team on the field, we'll be happy to put it on for them," he confidently assured us. "We have 3 satellite dishes with separate packages to pick up every station imaginable. If

pect great entertainment three nights weekly with one of Aruba's most popular trios, "Threesome." There are also some wild times getting acquainted with Rusty's Beer Pong, the Drinking Game of Champions. Win or lose, players always end up with a smile on their face.

This family friendly place, with air hockey and video games for the kids, along with a special menu for young ones, is open 7 days a week from 7:30 AM until 1:00 AM for late night snacking and fun.

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## 5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an inter-

nationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy,

made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 7 a.m., patrons can now order 2 eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$4.49, (\$5.48 with bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, again, with free refills on fresh coffee. Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (al-



most 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jalapeño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by

two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish at night; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district at now extra cost for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

## Sport

### Football: Di Canio resigns after deadline passes



LONDON (AFP) - Colourful Italian coach Paolo di Canio resigned as manager of financially-troubled English League One side Swindon on Monday after the Football League failed to grant approval to the prospective new owners of the club by a deadline he had imposed.

The 44-year-old former AC Milan, Juventus, Lazio and Celtic striker had been incensed earlier this month after the club's best player Matt Ritchie was sold to promotion rivals Bournemouth for £500,000 on transfer deadline day.

However, Di Canio, who famously served a long suspension for shoving over referee Paul Alcock while playing for Sheffield Wednesday in 1998, had agreed to stay on in the hope that the league would approve the new owners.

Their arrival on the scene at the end of January helped the club stave off going into administration but their approval has taken a longer time to come from the Football

League than Di Canio had hoped.

"I've been told approval has not been granted yet (as of 1700GMT) and therefore my temporary arrangement has ended and my resignation stands," said Di Canio, who took over in May 2011.

Ritchie's departure came after weeks of financial uncertainty for Swindon, who have debts of over £9 million.

In January, Di Canio, who led Swindon to promotion from League Two as champions last season and are presently sixth in League One, offered to give the club £30,000 of his own money to keep several loan signings.

But days later owner Andrew Black put the club up for sale and on transfer deadline day Di Canio saw moves for three players fall through because the Football League wouldn't clear the deals.

## REMEMBER

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## Cycling:



MADRID (AFP) - Frenchman Jonathan Hivert won the first stage of the Tour of Andalusia on Monday, a 164km ride from San Fernando to Ubrique. The 27-year-old - who is in top form having won France's first professional race of the season the Etoile de Besseges in early February - prevailed in a sprint finish ahead of Spaniard Alejandro Valverde and Dutchman Bauke Mollema. Movistar rider Valverde retained the overall lead, holding a seven second advantage over Belgium's Jurgen Van den Broeck and Mollema, who is a further four seconds back, after the Spaniard won Sunday's prologue. Hivert is eighth overall and 25secs off the lead. Today's second stage is the 194km ride from Trebujena to Montilla.

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### Golf: McIlroy, Woods steal the spotlight at WGC Match Play

MARANA (AFP) - World No. 1 Rory McIlroy and three-time winner Tiger Woods top the list of favourites in the \$8.75 million World Golf Championships Match Play Championship that begins on Wednesday.

Woods, a 14-time major champion chasing the record 18 majors won by Jack Nicklaus, comes off a practice round last weekend with US President Barack Obama and a victory last month at Torrey Pines on his 2013 US PGA debut.

McIlroy, who lost last year's Match Play final to American Hunter Mahan, missed the cut at Dubai in his only prior start this year. McIlroy won the 2012 PGA Championship and

the 2011 US Open.

The Northern Irishman opens against Irishman Shane Lowry in a Bobby Jones bracket that also has a first-round matchup between another Northern Irishman Graeme McDowell and Ireland's Padraig Harrington, both past major winners.

Woods tops the Gary Player bracket with an opener against US compatriot Charles Howell. Woods lost in the second round last year and has not gone past the second round since beating Stewart Cink in the 2008 final.

Mahan, the only American finalist in the past four years, starts at the opposite end of the same bracket against Italy's Matteo Manassero.

The field of 64 is lacking two of the world's top 64 players after 2012 US PGA playoff champion Brandt Snedeker withdrew with sore ribs and Phil Mickelson pulled out for a family vacation.

Sweden's Fredrik Jacobson, who opens against reigning British Open champion Ernie Els of South Africa in the Ben

Hogan bracket, and Lowry were added to the field to replace Snedeker and Mickelson.

McIlroy's quarter of the draw also features reigning Masters champion Bubba Watson, who opens with England's Chris Wood; 2011 Masters winner Charl Schwartzel of South Africa, who opens against American Russell Henley and 2007 Masters winner Zach Johnson, an American who opens with Australian Jason Day.

Other threats in Woods's quarter of the draw include England's Lee Westwood, who opens against Spain's Rafael Cabrera-Bello; American Webb Simpson, who opens against England's David Lynn, and Germany's Martin Kaymer, who plays South African George Coetzee in the first round.

Donald's quarter of the bracket also features Aussie Adam Scott, who opens against South African Tim Clark; England's Ian Poulter, who opens against Scotsman Stephen Gallacher, and American Steve Stricker, who starts against Sweden's Henrik Stenson.

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## Cycling: Katusha appeal win means 19-team World Tour

PARIS (AFP) - Cycling's World Tour will feature 19 teams this season, instead of 18, after Russian cycling team Katusha won their appeal to be reinstated, the sport's world governing body UCI announced on Monday.

"Exceptionally there are 19 registered UCI ProTeams in the 2013 season," a UCI statement read.

"The decision comes further to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) ruling of 15 February 2013 which upheld the application of Katusha Management SA to be registered as a UCI ProTeam for the season 2013."



Katusha won its appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) after being excluded from the circuit in December, leaving them at the mercy of the organisers of the major Tours as to whether they are invited to compete or not.

The CAS initially upheld the ruling in January but overturned that decision on appeal on Friday.

The controversial team, who count 2012 World Tour champion Joaquim Rodriguez of Spain and Russia's Denis Menchov in their ranks, is run

by Russia's Viacheslav Ekimov, a former team-mate of the disgraced rider Lance Armstrong.

In November the Association of Race Organisers warned it would only consider handing out invitations to teams which had signed up to the anti-doping charter - the Movement for Credible Cycling.

Katusha had been refused a wildcard entry to this year's Giro d'Italia as they had not signed up for the Movement, but they have since done so as a probationary member.



BOGOTA (AFP) - Elina Svitolina of Ukraine returns the ball to Alize Cornet of France, during the WTA Bogota Open tennis Championship yesterday. Alize Cornet (FRA x2) bt Elina Svitolina (UKR) 6-2, 7-6 (8/6)

## NBA: West wins third... continued from page 16



LeBron James #6 of the Miami Heat and the Eastern Conference drives on Kobe Bryant #24 of the Los Angeles Lakers and the Western Conference

Paul answered an East basket with his fourth 3-pointer of the game and after George hit back-to-back 3-pointers, Griffin answered with a free throw and a fast break slam dunk that included a pass to himself off the backboard.

Spectacular slam dunks by James, Durant and Griffin produced the most sparkling moments of the first half.

Dwyane Wade set up Miami teammate James for the East but made one of his best passes to Tyson Chandler for a running one-handed alley-oop jam while Bryant and Paul kept Durant and Griffin set up for dunks.

Durant made 8-of-12 shots for 19 points in the first half while every basket by Griffin in the first half came on a slam dunk.

Big men Dwight Howard and Tim Duncan tried to see who could sink a rare 3-pointer first while guards took turns dribbling between the legs of rivals as the players used the light-hearted matchup for fun moments that regular NBA games rarely allow.

"You need a three, give it to me," West center Howard said.

Before the game, played on the 50th birthday of NBA leg-

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## NBA: West wins third in a row over East in All-Star Game



In his sixth All-Star Game, Chris Paul won his first MVP award.

HOUSTON (AFP) - Chris Paul scored 20 points and passed out 15 assists to spark the Western Conference over the Eastern Conference 143-138 on Sunday in the 62nd NBA All-Star Game.

NBA scoring leader Kevin Durant had a game-high 30 points for the West and Paul's Los Angeles Clippers teammate Blake Griffin added 19 points, both of them jamming down spectacular slam dunks thanks to set-up passes from Paul.

Clippers guard Paul was voted the NBA All-Star Game's Most Valuable Player as the West won the annual showdown of elite hoops talent for the third time in a row and fourth time in five games.

Paul joined Magic Johnson and Isiah Thomas as the only All-Star Game players to produce at least 20 points and 15 assists in one game.

"To be mentioned with those guys, it's an honor," Paul said. "To be on the court with all these guys I don't get the

chance to play with, it's an privilege."

Carmelo Anthony led the East with 26 points and 12 rebounds while LeBron James added 19 points and Paul George contributed 17.

The West led 69-65 at half-time and had the same margin, 108-104, entering the fourth quarter when a showy game of dunks and flashy moves found intensity.

Back-to-back 3-pointers by Kyrie Irving pulled the East within 119-118, but Durant had two slam dunks in an 8-2 West run to boost the lead to 127-120.

Anthony sparked a 6-2 East run to pull his side within 129-126 but Paul followed with a 3-pointer and Kobe Bryant played tight defense on James in what became a man-on-man rivalry between playmakers in the final minutes.

Bryant made a driving layup and blocked a James shot to set up a fast break slam dunk by Durant to put the West ahead 136-126. Bryant later added another block of James as the two traded taunts on the court.

Durant became the first player to score at least 30 points in three consecutive NBA All-Star Games.

*continues on page 15*

## Auto racing: Patrick's Daytona pole makes NASCAR history



DAYTONA BEACH, (AFP) - Danica Patrick topped qualifying for the Daytona 500 on Sunday to become the first woman to earn pole position for one of the hugely popular NASCAR stock car racing's elite events.

A day after she notched the fastest overall practice lap, Patrick lapped the 2.5-mile Daytona International Speedway in 45.817sec, averaging 196.434 miles per hour to seize the pole for the February 24 season-opener of NASCAR's Sprint Cup series.

Patrick, 30, competed in 10 races in the series last year, after making the jump from the IndyCar open-wheel rac-

ing series.

Patrick, who spent five seasons on the Andretti team, became one of IndyCar's signature racers after becoming the first woman to win a series race by capturing the 2008 event at Japan's Twin Ring Motegi.

In 2005, she became the first woman to lead the Indianapolis 500 thanks to a refuel strategy and in 2009 she reached the Indy 500 podium with a third-place showing.

Last season Patrick finished 10th in NASCAR's second-rung Nationwide series, and she won pole for the Nationwide race at Daytona last year.

But the highest a woman had ever qualified for a top-flight NASCAR race was ninth -- achieved by Janet Guthrie at Bristol and Talladega in 1977.

Jeff Gordon will start alongside Patrick on the front row of the grid. Gordon, a three-time winner of the prestigious Daytona race averaged 196.292 mph to claim the fourth front-row spot on the Daytona 500 grid of his career.

Patrick and Gordon are the only drivers who have secured their starting positions.

The rest of the 43-car grid will be set on Thursday.

## Lakers' owner Jerry Buss dies

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Former players and rivals recalled Jerry Buss, the Los Angeles Lakers owner who died Monday after a fight with cancer at age 80, as a visionary who helped mold the NBA and make the Lakers champions. Buss won 10 NBA titles as owner of the Lakers, more than any other team owner in league history, after purchasing the Lakers, ice hockey's Los Angeles Kings, their arena and a ranch from Jack Kent Cooke for \$67.5 million in 1979. Buss, who was elected into the Basketball Hall of Fame in 2010, was recalled fondly by fellow Hall of Famer Magic Johnson, who said Buss was like a "second father" after making the Lakers' selection of Johnson in the 1979 NBA Draft a condition of the purchase deal. Buss launched the "Showtime" era of the Lakers that saw Johnson win five titles and later become a part-owner of the team, which is now guided by son Jim Buss on basketball matters and daughter Jeanie Buss on the business side.

